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## *Crime Witness Program expands across the west*

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### **Bonneville Power Administration**

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**PORTLAND, Ore.** –Under an agreement signed by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the [Bureau of Reclamation \(BOR\)](#), the two agencies will jointly run the Crime Witness Program. The \$100,000 agreement expands the program from its original base in the Pacific Northwest into all 17 western states.

The Crime Witness Program is a broad neighborhood-watch-style crime prevention program intended to combat crime, reduce vandalism, increase power system reliability, control costs and keep rates low. BPA Administrator [Judi Johansen](#) stated: "We are very pleased with this alliance between our two agencies. It is a natural fit. Leveraging each agency's resources in this constructive partnership is good for BPA, the BOR, our customers, the power system and the greater public interest."

The Crime Witness Program offers cash rewards of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons committing crimes against BPA or BOR facilities, property or personnel. Signs posted at facilities direct informants to call toll free 1-800-437-2744 to report suspicious or criminal activities in complete confidence.

BPA originally created its Crime Witness Program in 1994 to ask the public to help fight crime on its facilities. Before the program, crime directed against BPA personnel, property and assets cost the agency more than \$1 million each year. Since 1994, the program generated hundreds of telephone tips resulting in dozens of arrests, thousands of dollars in recovered property and restitution, and deterred future crime. Crime-related costs have fallen more than a third since institution of the program.

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